

## **Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 36**

### **RESOLUTION CHAPTER 51**

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 36—Relative to the Alzheimer's Association.

[Filed with Secretary of State June 17, 2005.]

#### **LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

SCR 36, Alquist. Alzheimer's Association anniversary.

This measure would commend the Alzheimer's Association for its many accomplishments and service to families living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementia disorders on the occasion of the association's 25th anniversary.

WHEREAS, On April 10, 1980, the Alzheimer's Association was legally incorporated in New York with seven groups nationwide, including volunteers in San Francisco, and established as its mission the elimination of Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research and the enhancement of care and support for individuals, their families and caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Since its founding, the association has been the largest private funder of Alzheimer's disease research in the country, having awarded \$165 million to more than 1300 research investigations; and

WHEREAS, The association created the Safe Return program to assist in the identification and safe, timely return of individuals with Alzheimer's disease who wander and become lost; and

WHEREAS, The association operates an awareness campaign that identifies 10 warning signs for families to help recognize symptoms of Alzheimer's disease that should prompt consultation with their physician; and

WHEREAS, The association maintains a Medicare Advocacy Project with the American Bar Association's Commission on the Legal Problems of the Elderly to improve Medicare coverage of care and treatment for beneficiaries with dementia; and

WHEREAS, The association maintains a 24-hour national contact center that enables families living with Alzheimer's to always have access to trained staff; and

WHEREAS, The association has 300 points of service nationwide where families living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementia disorders receive information and referral, education, care consultation, and access to support groups; and

WHEREAS, The association began its work targeting those already diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, and has since broadened its activities

to targeting those showing early symptoms of the disease and to prevention. In fact, the association will convene in June 2005 the first-of-its-kind conference on prevention—International Conference on Prevention of Dementia: Early Diagnosis and Intervention; and

WHEREAS, The association has provided a voice for people with Alzheimer's and their families and, through its advocacy in California, has fostered the development, expansion, and continued funding of the Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Centers, a national model for preventing the institutionalization of persons with moderate to severe Alzheimer's; and

WHEREAS, Through its advocacy in California, the association has created statutory authority for a tax checkoff for research in Alzheimer's disease and related dementia disorders that has raised more than \$7 million to fund California-based research and generated millions in federal research dollars that have enabled Alzheimer's research centers to be established throughout California; and

WHEREAS, The California chapters of the association, through the leadership of the Los Angeles/Riverside/San Bernardino chapter, developed for physicians, "Guidelines for Alzheimer's Disease Management" and for families, "Working with Your Doctor When You Suspect Memory Problems," which became a national model for creating family partnerships with physicians and promoting appropriate treatment and family support; and

WHEREAS, The California chapters of the association have taken a leadership role in developing model programs to provide services to people living with dementia in diverse and underserved communities; and

WHEREAS, Through its advocacy in California, the association has created statutory requirements for dementia training in long-term care settings, developed model training guidelines, and provided training to long-term care staff throughout California in order to improve the quality of care for people with Alzheimer's and other dementia disorders; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring,* That the Legislature commends the Alzheimer's Association for its many accomplishments and service to families living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementia disorders on the occasion of the Association's 25th anniversary; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.